

15 surface functions, which is selected from the group consisting of precipitated or pyrogenic silicas, aluminas, aluminosilicates and carbon blacks modified during or after synthesis [having] to have SiOH or AlOH functions at their surface, wherein said white filler has a specific surface area of between 30 and 260 m<sup>2</sup>/g and is present in an amount of between about 15 phr and 40 phr, and

(ii) a blend of carbon black having a BET specific surface area of between 30 and 160 m<sup>2</sup>/g<sub>[1]</sub>, and the white filler of in (i), in which the total amount of filler is between about 15 phr and 50 phr [and the amount in phr of white filler is greater than or equal to the amount of carbon black in phr minus 5.], wherein the amount of white filler is greater than or equal to the amount of carbon black in phr minus five phr.

16 3. (AMENDED) The elastomeric filler mix of Claim 2 wherein the additional diene elastomer is selected from the group consisting of a polybutadiene having [a majority of C is 1,4 bonds] double bonds, the majority of which are cis-1,4 bonds, a butadiene/styrene emulsion or solution copolymer having [a majority of] double bonds, the majority of which are trans- 1,4 bonds, a butadiene/isoprene copolymer, and a styrene/butadiene/isoprene terpolymer.

4. (AMENDED) The elastomer mix of Claim 3 wherein the diene elastomer has active groups on the elastomer chain or at the end of the elastomer chain, said active groups being active with carbon black or with white fillers, or is [is modified on the chain or at the end of a chain by an engrafted carbon black filler a SiOH or AlOH surface function, or] starred by a carbonyl, silicon or tin halide.

5. (AMENDED) The elastomeric filler mix of Claim 1 wherein the carbon black of ii has a BET specific surface area of between 90 and 150 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

Please **add** new claims 10-13.

17 10. (NEW) The elastomer mix of claim 3 wherein the diene elastomer has been modified on the chain or at the end of the chain by a branching agent, starring agent or combinations thereof.

11. (NEW) The elastomer mix of claim 10 wherein the branching agent is divinylbenzene.